

In FIG. 9, the end cap 602 comprises a sidewall 602A with 1° to 20° of draft to the top surface. The draft leaves a gap 628. The central portion 606 is frictionally secured to the end cap 602. Alternatively, the end cap 602 and the central portion 606 may be joined using an adhesive at 610.

5 A feature and advantage of the present invention is that the container also may function as a shipping container, and protects the merchandise during shipping and handling, without the need for extraneous packing material which would need to be disposed of. Thus, the container may be used for shipping and displaying a variety of goods, including tools, jewelry and watches, crystal, pharmaceuticals, perfume, cosmetics, toys, collectibles, etc. Also, once the  
10 merchandise is removed, the container may be used in the home or shop, e.g. for storing loose things. Also, a through-slot, shown in phantom at 101 may be formed, communicating with slot 102D, so that the container may be used, e.g. as a coin bank.

Although the present invention has been described in relation to particular embodiments thereof, many other variations and modifications and other uses will become apparent to those  
15 skilled in the art. It is preferred, therefore, that the present invention be limited not by the specific disclosure herein, but only by the appended claims.